



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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UPCOMING GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Upper Mystic River Restoration Projects

Distribution of Funds from the Massachusetts Natural Resource Damages (NRD) Trust

Informational Meeting

The Department of Environmental Protection's Natural Resource Damages Assessment and Restoration Program will hold a pre – Grant Application and Announcement (GAA) Informational Meeting to discuss an upcoming grant opportunity for restoration projects in the Upper Mystic River. We recommend potential applicants attend this meeting to discuss project ideas before the Upper Mystic River Restoration GAA is issued in December 2014.

The meeting will be held in West Medford at the Community Center, 111 Arlington Street, on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

A total of \$55,100 is available for water quality restoration projects as part of an October 16, 2014 settlement agreement between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and J. P. Noonan Transportation, Inc., associated with a May 31, 2013 release of 9,600 gallons of No. 2 fuel oil which impacted the Mystic River in Arlington and Medford.

Proposed projects must restore water quality in the Mystic River (Segment MA71-02) from the Outlet of Lower Mystic Lake (Segment MA71-027) to the confluence with Alewife Brook (Segment MA71-04). The Mystic River watershed is delineated and described in the "MYSTIC RIVER WATERSHED AND COASTAL DRAINAGE AREA 2004-2008 WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT" (Report Number: 71-AC-2), Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Watershed Management, Worcester, Massachusetts, March 2010 . The link to this document is:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/resources/71wqar09/71wqar09.pdf>.

Restoration projects may include water quality improvements that address the degradation of aquatic habitats and result in meeting water quality standards and/or restoring beneficial uses. Projects may include components to improve community capacity for sustaining ecosystems through ongoing stewardship.

The Commonwealth's procurement rules prohibit MassDEP from consulting with potential applicants to develop project ideas once the GAA is issued. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact MassDEP before the GAA issue date to refine project ideas and obtain feedback. Contact Karen Pelto (617-292-5785 or karen.pelto@state.ma.us) for a discussion of ideas and settlement objectives.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

Pre-GAA Informational Meeting	December 2, 2014
GAA posted on Comm-BUYS and MassDEP website	December 19, 2014
Responses due to MassDEP	February 27, 2015
Evaluation of Responses (estimated)	March 1 - April 17, 2015
Award Announcement (estimated)	April 17, 2015